

Notice of Exemption

2019048566

Appendix E

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

County Clerk
County of: NEV

From: (Public Agency): Caltrans District 3
703 B, Street
Marysville, CA, 95901

(Address)

Project Title: Mystic Falls (EA 03-2H000)

Project Applicant: California Department of Transportation (Caltrans)

Project Location - Specific:
Interstate 80 in Nevada County at PM 29.6

Project Location - City: N/A Project Location - County: NEV

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:
The project proposes to stabilize the existing cut slop by installing a mesh drapery.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Caltrans

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Caltrans

Exempt Status: (check one):

- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
[X] Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: Class 1
Statutory Exemptions. State code number:

Reasons why project is exempt:
The project is exempt because the project does not have the potential to have a significant impact on the environment. The project falls into one of the exemption categories.

Lead Agency
Contact Person: Erin Dwyer Area Code/Telephone/Extension: 530-741-4538

If filed by applicant:

- 1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project? [] Yes [] No

Signature: [Signature] Date: 4/20/19 Title: ENV. Senior

[] Signed by Lead Agency [] Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.

Date Received for filing at OPR:

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

APR 29 2019

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION/CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION FORM

03-Nev-80 29.5/29.7 03-2H000/ 0317000044
Dist.-Co.-Rte. (or Local Agency) P.M./P.M. E.A/Project No. Federal-Aid Project No. (Local Project)/Project No.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: (Briefly describe project including need, purpose, location, limits, right-of-way requirements, and activities involved in this box. Use Continuation Sheet, if necessary.)

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) is proposing a project located along Interstate 80 in Nevada County at Post-mile 29.6 to stabilize the existing cut slope by installing a mesh drapery. The purpose of this project is to mitigate the amount of rock fall that has been entering the traveled way, and to reduce the amount of maintenance that has been required at this location. The intent of the draped mesh is to have the fallen rocks descend onto the catchment area. A v-ditch will also be constructed in the catchment area to help facilitate the removal of the fallen rock.

Continue onto page 2

CALTRANS CEQA DETERMINATION (Check one)

- Not Applicable - Caltrans is not the CEQA Lead Agency
Not Applicable - Caltrans has prepared an Initial Study or Environmental Impact Report under CEQA

Based on an examination of this proposal, supporting information, and the above statements, the project is:

- Exempt by Statute. (PRC 21080[b]; 14 CCR 15260 et seq.)
Categorically Exempt. Class 1. (PRC 21084; 14 CCR 15300 et seq.)

Based on an examination of this proposal and supporting information, the following statements are true and exceptions do not apply:

- If this project falls within exempt class 3, 4, 5, 6 or 11, it does not impact an environmental resource of hazardous or critical concern where designated, precisely mapped, and officially adopted pursuant to law.
There will not be a significant cumulative effect by this project and successive projects of the same type in the same place, over time.
There is not a reasonable possibility that the project will have a significant effect on the environment due to unusual circumstances.
This project does not damage a scenic resource within an officially designated state scenic highway.
This project is not located on a site included on any list compiled pursuant to Govt. Code § 65962.5 ("Cortese List").
This project does not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource.

- Common Sense Exemption. [This project does not fall within an exempt class, but it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity may have a significant effect on the environment (14 CCR 15061[b][3].)

ERIN DWYER
Print Name: Senior Environmental Planner or Environmental Branch Chief

MARTIN CLARK
Print Name: Project Manager

Signature Date 4/18/19

Signature Date 4/18/19

NEPA COMPLIANCE

In accordance with 23 CFR 771.117, and based on an examination of this proposal and supporting information, the State has determined that this project:

- does not individually or cumulatively have a significant impact on the environment as defined by NEPA, and is excluded from the requirements to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) or Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), and
has considered unusual circumstances pursuant to 23 CFR 771.117(b).

CALTRANS NEPA DETERMINATION (Check one)

- 23 USC 326: The State has determined that this project has no significant impacts on the environment as defined by NEPA, and that there are no unusual circumstances as described in 23 CFR 771.117(b). As such, the project is categorically excluded from the requirements to prepare an EA or EIS under the National Environmental Policy Act. The State has been assigned, and hereby certifies that it has carried out the responsibility to make this determination pursuant to Chapter 3 of Title 23, United States Code, Section 326 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated May 31, 2016, executed between the FHWA and the State. The State has determined that the project is a Categorical Exclusion under:

- 23 CFR 771.117(c): activity (c) (22)
23 CFR 771.117(d): activity (d)
Activity listed in Appendix A of the MOU between FHWA and the State

- 23 USC 327: Based on an examination of this proposal and supporting information, the State has determined that the project is a Categorical Exclusion under 23 USC 327. The environmental review, consultation, and any other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried out by Caltrans pursuant to 23 USC 327 and the Memorandum of Understanding dated December 23, 2016 and executed by FHWA and Caltrans.

ERIN DWYER
Print Name: Senior Environmental Planner or Environmental Branch Chief

MARTIN CLARK
Print Name: Project Manager/DLA Engineer

Signature Date 4/18/19

Signature Date 4/18/19

CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION/CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION FORM

Continuation Sheet

| | | | |
|---|-----------|-----------------------------|---|
| 03-Nev-80 | 29.5/29.7 | 03-2H000/ 0317000044 | |
| Dist.-Co.-Rte. (or Local Agency) | P.M./P.M. | E.A/Project No. | Federal-Aid Project No. (Local Project)/Project No. |
| Date of Categorical Exclusion Checklist completion: | | Date of ECR or equivalent : | |

Briefly list environmental commitments on continuation sheet. Reference additional information, as appropriate (e.g., CE checklist, additional studies and design conditions).

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

APR 29 2019

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION/CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION FORM

Continuation Sheet

| | | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------|----------------------|---|
| 03-Nev-80 | 29.5/29.7 | 03-2H000/ 0317000044 | |
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Continued from page 1:

Scope of Work:

Stabilize cut slope by draped mesh

- Construction of V-ditch
- Cut surface will be cleared
- Tree removal will occur
- Mesh will be made from steel material
- Vegetation Removal

Staging:

- The staging for this project will be between 29.5-29.8, and the helicopter staging will be between 30.6 to 30.8, and its use will be at the contractor's discretion. There will be a total of three staging areas.

Disposal/ Borrow:

- Disposal and borrow will not be needed.

Right-of-Way:

- All work will occur within the Caltrans right-of-way.

Consultation/ Coordination:

- No consultation was required.

Permits:

- Permits are not required